implementation of projects pending receipt of the money from public issue.

(d) Does not arise.

Bridge Loans to Companies against Public Issues

5299. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what were the reasons advanced by RBI for banning bridge loans to companies against Public Issues;

(b) whether it is a fact that such beneficiary companies were misusing this facility; and

(c) if so, the details of under-currents on this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the sanction of bridge loans by banks and financial institutions (FIs) against public issues has been banned due to absence of a risk free arrangement for such advance which are mostly in the form of unsecured credit. Further, banks and FIs were unable to ensure end-use of funds lent by them by way of bridge loans against public issues/market borrowings. Banks were also found to have not assessed properly the element of risk involved in sanction of bridges loans. There were also cases where recovery of bridge loans was not effected within the due date.

(b) and (c) RBI has reported that a sample scrutiny of bridge loans of Rs. 5 crore and above sanctioned by banks during the period 01.12.1993 to 31.03.1994 did not reveal any specific misuse of bridge loans by borrowers. But it was, inter-alia, found that banks were not ensuring end-use of funds lent.

Holiday for Foreign Banks

5300. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign banks operating in the country will be exempted from enforced Bank Holidays;

(b) if so, the details of such exemption;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of Bank Holidays; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that holidays declared under the Negotiable Instruments Act are applicable to all banks operating in the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

विदेशी ऋण पर दिया जाने वाला ब्याज

5301. श्री राम जेठमलानी:
श्रीमती फूलवती स्वरूप:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत कई वर्षों में लिये गये ऋण के कारण विदेशी ऋण पर दिये जाने वाले ब्याज की राशि में निरंतर वृद्धि होती रही है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो वर्ष 1992-93, 1993-94 और 1994-95 के दौरान ब्याज की रूप में कितनी धनराशि का भुगतान किया गया;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि चालू वित्तीय वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान इस राशि के और भी बढ़ने की संभावना है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस राशि के बारे में क्या अनुमान है; और

(ङ) उपर्युक्त वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक वर्ष में सरकार द्वारा लिये गये कुल वार्षिक ऋण में से कितनी प्रतिशत राशि ब्याज के रूप में दी गई है?